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USSR

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REISSUE

ASSESSMENTS OF ARTEM AND LEONID, MENTION OF SERGEJ, MAKSIM, ZVUK, SECOND LINE, "A" TECHNIQUE (1944)

From: NEW YORK

To: MOSCOW

No.: 1076

29 July 1944

To VIKTOR[i].

Herewith the personal reports:

1. ARTEM[ii] controlled several probationers [STAZBERY] of the Second Line[iii]. He ran these probationers on his own only after SERGEJ[iv] had left for home. He did not display any particular initiative.

[20 groups unrecovered].

He has a poor knowledge of the language, he barely [1 group unrecovered] the minimum. His miserable cover (messenger-guard) actually stopped him, in the conditions obtaining here, from doubling for [DUBLIROVANIE] the inspectors. With a different cover he could have acted with greater initiative and more effectively. Perhaps he is experiencing a feeling of dissatisfaction since, according to what he says, he has not been able to show his worth for many years because of his cover and [8 groups unrecovered] he stops opening doors on an equal footing with two others who are capable of nothing else.

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2. LEONID[v], before MAKSIM[vi] was given cover, was in touch with ZVUK[vii] and a number of probationers of the Second Line. Not having operational experience, he was not able to run probationers in accordance with the requirements. He is qualified in the "A" technique[viii] and successfully carried out a number of special tasks connected with documents on receiving and dispatching people. He has carried out missions consisting of checking and observing workers. He was used for tailing immediately upon MAKSIM's arrival. He acquired experience in external surveillance [MARUZHNOE NARLYUDENIE]. He has virtually no knowledge of the language and has not studied it.

[17 groups unrecovered]

"Latterly he [2 groups unrecovered] did not try to improve himself, was off-hand and even rude, conducted [1 group unrecovered] "independently". He was needlessly frank with his wife about matters concerning our work, which

[33 groups unrecoverable]

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- Footnotes: [i] VIKTOR: Lt General Pavel Mikhajlovich FITIN.
- [ii] ARTEK: Leonid Dmitrievich ABRAMOV, in the USA from May 1940 to 31 July 1944.
- [iii] Second Line: Probably concerned with Ukrainians and other minority ethnic groups of the USSR.
- [iv] SERGEJ: Vladimir Sergeevich PRAVDIN, in the USA from 19 October 1941 to Autumn 1943 and from January 1944 to 11 March 1946: cf NEW YORK's No. 1207 of 22 July 1943 (3/NBF/T903) on the transfer of "SERGEJ's" probationers.
- [v] LEONID: Aleksei Nikolaevich PROKHOROV, in the USA from 1940 to 31 July 1944.
- [vi] MAKSIM: Vasilij Mikhajlovich ZUBILIN, in the USA from 25 December 1941 to 26 August 1944.
- [vii] ZVUK: ie "SOUND"; Jacob GOLOS.
- [viii] "A" technique: Apparently the manufacture and provision of false papers. Cf references to the "A" Group and the "A" Line in NEW YORK's Nos. 626 of 5 May 1944 (3/NBF/T86), 1203 of 23 August 1944 (3/NBF/T245), 1457 and 1465 of 14 October 1944 (3/NBF/T491, 789).

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